

**CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
CITY COUNCIL
STAFF REPORT**

Meeting Date: November 5, 2019
To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
From: City Administration
Requestor: Sebastopol Downtown Association
Subject: Approval of Resolution to authorize the suspension of the One Hour Parking Limit in the Sebastopol Downtown Association District during the period November 15, 2019 to January 5, 2020
Recommendation: That the City Council Consider the Suspension of the One Hour Parking Limit
Funding: Currently Budgeted: _____ Yes _____ No XX N/A
Net General Fund Cost:
Amount: \$

INTRODUCTION: This item is to request that the City Council Consider the Request from the Sebastopol Downtown Association (SDA) for Suspension of the One Hour Parking Limit in the Sebastopol Downtown Association District during the period November 15, 2019 to January 5, 2020.

BACKGROUND: The City of Sebastopol has received a request from the Sebastopol Downtown Association for a suspension of the 1-hour parking limit in the SDA district during the holiday season. The dates requested for the suspension are between November 15, 2019 - January 5, 2020.

DISCUSSION: As an attractive destination for area residents, workers, and visitors alike, parking in downtown Sebastopol during the holiday is always in demand. To provide fair and convenient access, public parking spaces are time limited and are enforced by the City of Sebastopol Police Department.

As the Council is aware, the last two years have been difficult for businesses and the City alike due the wildfires in 2017 ad as recently as February of this year due to the flood event. In an effort to help the businesses of this community, as well as in keeping with the Council's core values to preserve a vibrant community that respects Sebastopol's Small town unique character, and to promote economic vitality, it is requested that the City Council authorize suspension of the one hour parking enforcement during the period November 5, 2019 to January 5, 2020. This provides a gesture of good will between merchants, residents, and the City during the holiday shopping time of the year and allows patrons additional time to shop, eat and visit the downtown.

It is also recommended that businesses work with their employees to ensure that employees do not park in these spaces, but that the spaces be open for shoppers to the businesses. It is encouraged that employees park on side streets or in the City public parking lots.

The Sebastopol Downtown Association is recommending that they place burlap sacks over the top of the signs and tied off with red ribbons. It is recommended if approved, that the SDA work with the City Police Department and Public Works Department for coverings for signs.

Fiscal Impact:

There is minimal fiscal impact due to loss of revenue from parking tickets.

Staff Comments:

The item was routed to the Police Department and Public Works Department. Neither department had any concerns or issues with this request.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council Approve the Request from the Sebastopol Downtown Association (SDA) for Suspension of the One Hour Parking Limit in the Sebastopol Downtown Association District during the period November 15, 2019 to January 5, 2020 and adopt the attached resolution.

Attachment:

Letter from Sebastopol Downtown Association
Resolution



15 October 2019

Dear Sebastopol City Council Members,

On behalf of the downtown merchants, the Sebastopol Downtown Association writes to request for a suspension of the 1-hour parking limit in the SDA district during the holiday season.

The dates we request a suspension are between November 15, 2019 - January 5, 2020.

There have been many instances of stories shared where patrons experience are conflicted with having to make a choice between dining or shopping when they park in a one-hour designated space.

We hope the City Council will see the situation in the same light as us and extend this moratorium for the holiday season in the SDA District.

As a creative solution we wish to place burlap sacks over the top of the signs and tied off with red ribbons.

We look forward to your thoughts, feedback and ultimately your support in this request.

Sincerely,

The Sebastopol Downtown Association Board of Directors

RESOLUTION NUMBER: _____

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SEBASTOPOL CITY COUNCIL SUSPENDING ENFORCEMENT OF THE ONE HOUR PARKING TIME LIMIT DURING THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 15, 2019 TO JANUARY 5, 2020 FOR PARKING WITHIN THE SEBASTOPOL DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the City of Sebastopol desires to promote goodwill between the City, residents, visitors and merchants over the winter holiday season; and

WHEREAS, such a holiday period falls between November 15, 2019 and January 5, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Sebastopol hereby authorizes the City Manager or his designee to not enforce the one-hour parking time limit within the Sebastopol Downtown Association District from November 15, 2019 through January 5, 2020.

IN COUNCIL DULY PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 5th day of November 2019.

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the City of Sebastopol City Council by the following vote:

APPROVED: _____

NEYSA HINTON
Mayor, City of Sebastopol

VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABTAIN:

ATTEST: _____

Mary Gourley, MMC, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM: _____

Larry McLaughlin, City Attorney